

December 18, 2017

Dear Representative:

On behalf of the 1.5 million members and supporters of the Faith & Freedom Coalition, I urge you to vote YES on the Conference Report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA). A vote for this bill is a vote for tax cuts that Republicans have promised and America's hardworking families desperately deserve. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will strengthen families, grow the economy, and create jobs. To that end, Faith & Freedom Coalition will score the vote on H.R. 1 as vote to cut taxes for families and as a vote to begin the process of repealing Obamacare. This vote will appear in tens of millions of Congressional Scorecards and voter guides distributed in over 100,000 churches.

Since Congress last passed major tax reform over thirty years ago, the tax code has become riddled with corporate giveaways and special-interest provisions that benefit the politically-connected and privileged at the expense of working families. This legislation makes the tax code simpler and fairer, strengthens the family, increase wages, creates jobs, and makes small, family-owned businesses more competitive.

H.R. 1 doubles the child tax credit to \$2,000, makes it available to more families by increasing the income eligibility thresholds, and makes up to \$1,400 refundable to lower and middle-class working families. This provision is pro-life, pro-child, pro-family and pro-middle class. Doubling the standard deduction protects more of the average family's income from taxation, keeping more of their paycheck at home rather than sending it to Washington.

The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act also reduces the tax rate on the hard-earned income of small, family-owned businesses – creating the lowest tax rate on small business income since World War II. Mom and Pop businesses are the backbone of the American economy and the American family. Over 80% of new jobs are created by Main Street businesses and they need a tax rate that enables them to compete with overseas competitors and Wall Street corporations. These small businesses are often family affairs and are a key component to supporting stronger, more secure families.

Finally, repealing Obamacare's individual mandate and returning the savings to families is another tax cut for working families. Nearly 7 million American families paid over \$3 billion because of Obamacare's individual mandate tax, and 80 percent make less than \$50,000 a year. The Obamacare individual mandate is one of the most regressive taxes in the nation, punishing work and savings and hurting those least able to pay. Repealing it is a critical, if partial, fulfillment of the larger promise to end the disaster of Obamacare.

America's families have already waited too long for tax cuts that let them keep their hard earned dollars and care for their families. We must not fail them. The Tax Cuts and Jobs Act will simplify the code so that it is fairer for families and individuals, while also encouraging the economy to grow, leading to the creation of more jobs and higher wages.

<u>For all these reasons, Faith & Freedom Coalition will include the vote on Conference Report to H.R. 1, the Tax Cuts and Jobs Act (TCJA) in our Congressional Score and voter guides as a key vote in the 115th Congress.</u>

Thank you for considering the views of our millions of members and supporters.

Sincerely,

Sincerely,

Ralph Reed Chairman

Faith & Freedom Coalition

Timothy R. Head Executive Director

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